

News from Gambell —

By GRACE SLWOOKO

High school was build a couple of years ago in Gambell, Alaska. It is beautifully located close to the ruins of ancient village of Mayughwaaq, which stood right by the mountain Sivuqaq. If only our ancestors see the future, what great thing they would have seen in front of their eyes for their generations to come! But with a pride for their living and history, we bear their names.

We still have great pride for what they did in keeping land marks and tribes strong, if fact we still use the names passed down the generations with their great importance. So we go to that new REAA school for the education of our children. Last summer, there were new rooms built to it, they finally are in use now, so there are three big class rooms, with decent lighting, large Home Ec. room, kitchen and a shop added to the full size gym.

There are 37 full time students.

The teachers there are, four certified teachers including the principal, that teaches full time, Helen Hickox. The others are Bill Bartlett, Mike and Pat Chitty. Two Title I Special Ed Aides are Orpha Ozevaseuk and Branson Tungyan. Two Bilingual Instructors are Charlene Apongaloook and Willis Walunga. There also are local experts for Teachers in the Visual Arts room. Nancy Walunga and Eva Tungyan are skin sewing teachers and Vernon Slwooko is

ivory carving teacher and Miller Cambell is drawing teacher. The students here are to learn to carve and edge and draw for sell and to make money from them.

Each student takes 6 periods a day, each period is 55 minutes. There are Home Economics, Shop, Business Communications, Typing, English, Math, Algebra and Geometry, Science Biology and Life Science, Social Studies, Yupik Lnaguage and Culture Classes. Visual Arts and Boys and Girls Basket Ball Teams, Ski Team and wrestling. But wrestling is short on equipment, so they are using J.O.M. funds for this year.

Special Education

There are two periods a day, set aside where a student can go to the resource room for help in a subject where he is having difficulty.

Business students have an organization called Office Education Association. This year, for the first time, the Bering Straits School District sent 6 girls to the State Conference and Competition. These were from Gambell and Savoonga and these were the only Native students in the State who attended the conference the District office.

Thanks to Mrs. Teresa Thomas' efforts, that funded and supported this trip. This was a proud moment for the school district. One of the students placed in the Business filing competition.